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In Cooperation with State, Federal and Other Agencies

COTTON INSECT CONDITIONS - JULY 30, 1951  
(Ninth Cotton Insect Survey Report for 1951)

Many thousands of bales of cotton can be saved from the boll weevil by the proper use of insecticides during August. The insecticides widely used include benzene hexachloride, calcium arsenate, toxaphene, aldrin, dieldrin, and chlordane. Every cotton field where there are bolls to save and where weevils are numerous should be treated with insecticides until the weevils are checked or a cotton crop matured.

Although the boll weevil infestations average lower now than a year ago in most areas, there are thousands of cotton fields where from 40 to 80% or more of the squares are punctured. In most of these fields, the proper application of insecticides during August will greatly increase the yields. Every cotton field in the United States should be carefully examined for cotton pests at least once each week during August or until the cotton is harvested. This is the month when bollworms, spider mites, stink bugs, cotton leafworms, and boll weevils do their greatest damage. All of these and all other cotton pests can be checked by the proper use of pesticides.

Recommended Reading: The New Mexico Cotton Letter issued by the Extension Service at State College, New Mexico, is prepared by the State Extension Cotton Committee and has been issued at weekly intervals throughout the summer beginning June 19. Each issue has included much about cotton insect conditions in New Mexico this summer and also much other valuable information of interest to cotton growers.

#### INSECTICIDES

South Carolina: The Eighth Weekly Report issued July 24 by the Extension Service stated: "Shortages: Sulfur - Anderson, Hampton and Orangeburg Counties; 10% DDT Dust - Darlington County; DDT Spray Concentrate - Greenville County; Toxaphene Dust - Greenville and Greenwood Counties; Chlordane - DDT Dust -- Hampton County; Defoliants - Hampton County."

#### BOLL WEEVIL

Virginia: Wayne L. Howe, Associate Entomologist, Tidewater Field Station, Holland, reported on July 30 that unpoisoned cotton fields are difficult to find in the vicinity of Holland. In the examination of three treated fields, less than 4% of the squares were punctured. In one unpoisoned field in Nansemond County 31% of the squares were punctured.

North Carolina: The Cotton News Letter No. 18 issued by the Extension Service on July 27 stated: "New generation boll weevils did not make their appearance in large numbers in Piedmont and northern counties as was expected this week. A few fields, however, showed increased activity. Some untreated fields are showing close to 100% of the young squares punctured. Weevil population is still low in many fields. This is the case in both treated and untreated fields and has existed all season in most areas." In the examination of 244 poisoned fields in 40 counties, weevils were found in 205 fields at an average rate of 9% punctured squares. In the examination of 142 unpoisoned fields, 140 were infested at an average rate of 29%



punctured squares. High weevil infestations were reported in Bladen, Hoke, Duplin, Lee, Lenoir, Wayne, Robeson, Scotland, and Johnston Counties.

South Carolina: The Eighth Weekly Report issued by the Extension Service July 24 stated: "All areas of the State had scattered showers which helped relieve the drought. Much cotton was lost during the period of dry weather extending for the most part over the past three weeks. The hot, dry period was unfavorable for weevil development." Weevil infestation in general is low. The state average in poisoned and unpoisoned fields was 7% punctured squares.

Georgia: C. M. Beckham, G. M. Sutton and E. T. Cody reported that during the week ending July 27 boll weevils were found in 97 of the 98 poisoned fields examined in 19 counties at an average rate of 11% punctured squares as compared with 10% last week. No weevils were found in one field in Emanuel County. The infestation ranged from 1 to 10% in 56 fields, from 11 to 25% in 38 fields and in 3 fields in Coweta, Jasper, and Morgan Counties more than 25% of the squares were punctured. Weevils were found in all of the 79 unpoisoned fields examined in the same 19 counties at an average rate of 24% punctured squares. The infestation ranged from 1 to 10% in 7 fields, from 11 to 25% in 43 fields, from 26 to 50% in 26 fields and more than 50% of the squares were punctured in 3 fields in Dooly and Tift Counties.

Alabama: During the week ending July 28 Conrad J. Ward reported that hot, dry weather checked weevil infestation and is causing serious shedding of squares and young bolls in southeastern counties. Weevils were found in 67 of 70 fields examined in 11 counties at an average rate of 17% punctured squares. No weevils were found in 3 fields in Houston, Geneva and Coffee Counties. The infestation ranged from 1 to 25% in 55 fields and 26 to 50% in 12 fields.

Tennessee: R. P. Mullett, Extension Entomologist, wrote to All Cotton County Agents on July 30: "The boll weevil situation is better or infestations are at a standstill at this time. A combination of the widespread control efforts and the dry, hot weather is responsible. However, some areas where there have been frequent showers and little control is practiced still have damaging weevil infestations present." Weevils were found in 64 of the 80 fields examined in 11 western counties by Arthur P. Morris and Federal entomologists at an average rate of 6% punctured squares. The infestation was less than 10% in 49 fields and more than 10% in 15 fields.

Mississippi: Mississippi Weekly Cotton Insect Report July 30: "During the past week, hot dry weather has been favorable for cotton culture and setting of fruit. This same weather has also aided in boll weevil control as the percentage of infestation is slightly lower this week. Examinations in 702 fields in 36 counties showed 455 infested with an average infestation of 10% which compares with 11% last week and 37% this time last year." Only 9 of the 455 infested fields had more than 50% of the squares punctured. They were in Choctaw, Grenada, Issaquena, Monroe, Tallahatchie, Warren, Webster, and Winston Counties.

"Because of general poisoning and the approaching maturity of the cotton, this will be the last Weekly Cotton Insect Report unless some unusual insect condition occurs, advises Ross E. Hutchins, Entomologist of the State Plant Board."

Louisiana: R. C. Gaines reported July 26: Hot, dry weather favorable for checking weevils and infestations are low in most areas. The average boll weevil infestation in 426 fields in 21 parishes was 11% punctured squares as compared with 12% last week, 21% in 1950 and 26% in 1949. No punctured squares were found in 2% of the fields. The infestation ranged from 1 to 10% in 65% of the fields, from 11